

Brethren Evangelist.

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NO OTHER LIKE IT.

The Bible holds a unique place in the literature of the world. There is no other book like it. No other book is held in such reverence; no other is so widely circulated and read by so many people. Nor is this book losing its hold upon the people as some would have us believe. It is this day read by more people than at any time before since God gave us the blessed volume. Why is this? What gives the Bible its vitality? It is not its literature, tho that is unsurpassed. It is not because of its historical value, tho as a history it is without a peer, giving the only authentic record of the story of man in existence. Nor is it because of its antiquity, tho in this too, the Bible stands alone.

What then is it that gives the Bible its seeming immortal life? It contains the Word of God. It is the voice of God speaking to lost humanity—the kind, Heavenly Father talking to his children on the earth. It is the one book that tells us what we are, who we are, whence we are and whither we are going. It is the book that tells us not only that we are sinners, but that we may be saved and how we may be saved. It has a message for each one, a message of good will and peace. It speaks in tones of tender accents to those who are lost in sin; it speaks words of blessed, sweet peace to the soul in deep distress, the heart burdened with a heavy sorrow—a sorrow too deep for expression, a grief too holy, too sacred for tears. It is a blessed book—a book for all people. Its simple message is suited alike to the illiterate and the learned, the poor and the rich, the old and the young. Let us resolve at this New Year to read it oftener, study it more carefully, and practice its holy precepts more perfectly.

THE Missionary Circle will be regularly represented in the paper in the same department with King's Children.

MADE ONE.

At five o'clock on the evening of December 22, brother J. Allen Miller and sister Clara Worst were united in holy wedlock. The name of J. Allen Miller is so well known throughout the entire brotherhood that an introduction is not necessary. A little more than two years ago he was made Dean of the Theological Department in Ashland University, the duties of which he performed with marked ability. His wife Clara, is the accomplished daughter of Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Worst. She has become known to the brotherhood through her services as editor of *Cheering Words*, our Sunday-school paper. We take the following from the *Ashland Press*:

A happy wedding was performed at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Worst Tuesday evening at five o'clock. The occasion was the marriage of Rev. J. A. Miller, of the Brethren Church, to Miss Clara A. Worst, Rev. A. D. Gnagey pronouncing the all important words. The guests numbered 31, including friends and relatives of the bride and groom. Among the guests were Mr. Miller's father, W. S. Miller, of Rossville, Ind., and his brother, W. H. Miller, of North Manchester, Ind. D. W. Gans, of Cleveland, was also present. Following the ceremony a magnificent collation was served, contributing much to the pleasure of the guests. Rev. and Mrs. Miller were the recipients of many very fine presents. Mr. Miller having won the high regard of all of his acquaintances while connected with Ashland college as teacher and minister, and Mrs. Miller has been a favorite among her circle of friends. They will go to Hiram next Monday and both attend college there.

THE ASHLAND BOYS.

The question is frequently asked, "Has the Ashland University ever been of any practical use to the Brethren Church? If so, what?" It seems to be the opinion of many that the School at Ashland has been nothing but a drag to the church, a burden which has proven a real hindrance to the progress of the church in general. It is argued that the Institution has been nothing but an expense to the church, an immense outlay entirely too large for the income. That the School has been an expense to the church it were foolish to deny. From a financial standpoint the School has been a failure. But is all true success to be measured in dollars and cents? Is it not possible that we may have wrong conceptions of what true suc-

cess is? Grant that the University has been an expense to the church; but has there been no return for all this outlay? Has the church received no benefit from this investment? Have no influences for good gone out from this school? We have been adding up the column on the debtor side in the ledger in dollars and cents. Perhaps it were well to add up the column on the credit side of the ledger, not in dollars and cents, but in spiritual power and influence which the church has received in return for its investment.

Passing by for the time such men as Teeter, Kimmel, Miller, Shively, Perry, and others who are now doing a great work for Christ and for the church let us note what the school has done for a few young men during the last few years. Where are the young men who came here to school two years ago and what are they now doing? Brother W. H. Miller is pastor of the church at Brighton, Ind., and is doing an excellent work. Brother S. B. Grisso is pastor of the North Liberty and Ankneytown churches and his report shows that he is doing good service. Brother F. B. McCollough is doing good service for the Master in Washington county, Pa. Brother Oberholtzer has charge of the Buckeye City church, Ohio, and is doing faithful work. Brother R. E. Darling is pastor of Moxham and Rosedale churches and his recent revival resulting in sixty-nine conversions shows what he is doing. Brother W. A. Welty is making a successful canvass for the college, preaching at the same time. Brother Alvin Byers was recently chosen pastor of the Ashland City church for a term of nine months, and gives evidence of a good preacher and faithful pastor. Neither of these young men were actively engaged in the ministry before coming to Ashland to attend school. The work here has given them an inspiration and the spiritual power that may result from their labors is not to be calculated in mere dollars and cents.

THE OLD AND NEW.

Again we are reminded of the fact that time is rapidly passing away. How quickly the years come and go. The year 1896 is no more. It has gone into the eternal past. Its record is made. If that record is not what it ought to be, there is but one thing for us to do, and that is to make of the year 1897 just what God would have us make of it. It is useless to fret and worry over the mistakes and blunders of